

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 NIC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

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R 210600 Z JUN 73

FM AMCONSUL KARACHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7299

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL LAHORE

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HONG KONG POUCH USLO PEKING

E. O. 11652: ADS DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT

TAGS: PFOR PK CH

SUBJECT: CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS PAKISTAN

REF: A) ISLAMABAD 4819 B) KARACHI 1047 (NOTAL)

BEGIN SUMMARY: CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER CHI PENG- FEI AND PARTY OF 22 ARRIVED KARACHI MID- DAY JUNE 17 ON TWO- DAY VISIT AND DEPARTED FOR PEKING EARLY HOURS OF JUNE 19. VISIT PROVIDED A MIX OF CEREMONIAL, PUBLIC EXPOSURE ACTIVITIES AND PRIVATE CONSULTATIONS WITH GOP OFFICIALS. VISIT ANNOUNCED ONLY A FEW DAYS IN ADVANCE (REF A) AND LAST MINUTE CHANGE OF PLANS, IN WHICH ISLAMABAD PORTION OF CHINESE VISIT SCRUBBED, RESULTED IN VISIT BEING CONFINED TO KARACHI, COINCIDING EXACTLY WITH KARACHI VISIT OF APOLLO 17 ASTRONAUTS (REF B). BOTH ASTRONAUTS AND CHINESE RECEIVED EXTENSIVE, FAVORABLE COVERAGE IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LOCAL PRESS. PRESS ACCOUNTS OF SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH MINISTER AZIZ AHMED AND PRESIDENT BHUTTO (WHO HAPPENED TO BE VISITING KARACHI) DEALT IN EUPHORIC GENERALIZATIONS REGARDING FAVORABLE STATE PAK- CHINESE TIES. CHINESE AND PAKISTANI VIEWS REPORTED AS BEING IDENTICAL ON ISSUES OF GOI ILLEGAL DETENTION OF PAK POW'S AND TRIALS TO BE HELD BY GBD. END SUMMARY.

1. OFFICIAL CONSULTATIONS: GOP MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEFENSE AND FOREIGN RELATIONS AZIZ AHMED MET AFTERNOON OF JUNE 17 WITH FOREIGN MINISTER CHI PENG- FEI FOR TWO AND ONE- HALF HOURS AT STATE GUEST HOUSE, KARACHI. ORIGINALLY IT HAD BEEN INTENDED THAT THIS MEETING TAKE PLACE IN ISLAMABAD ON SAME DATE, BUT AT LAST MINUTE, BECAUSE OF BAD WEATHER IN NORTH OF PAKISTAN, CHINESE PARTY BY- PASSED PLANNED ONE- DAY STOP IN ISLAMABAD AND CAME DIRECTLY TO KARACHI. PUBLISHED REPORTS OF THIS MEETING COUCHED ONLY IN GENERALITIES NOTING BILATERAL RELATIONS, INTERNATIONAL ISSUES OF COMMON CONCERN AND SOUTH ASIA WERE DISCUSSED BY THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND MINISTER OF STATE. IT WAS REPORTED AZIZ AHMED BRIEFED CHINESE ON HIS RECENT ATTENDANCE AT CENTO MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE IN TEHRAN. SPECIFICALLY PRESS REPORTS NOTED THAT ON TWO ISSUES -- ILLEGAL DETENTION OF PAK POW'S BY GOI AND TRIALS OF POW'S TO BE HELD BY GBD -- CHINESE AND PAKISTANI VIEWS WERE IDENTICAL. PRESIDENT BHUTTO RECEIVED CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER FOR HOUR- PLUS MEETING AFTERNOON OF JUNE 18, FOLLOWING WHICH BHUTTO ANNOUNCED COMPLETE UNANIMITY OF VIEWS, ESPECIALLY REGARDING THE SITUATION IN THE SUB- CONTINENT, NO REPORTS MENTIONED DISCUSSIONS ON SPECIFIC TOPICS SUCH AS ECONOMIC OR MILITARY ASSISTANCE.

2. CEREMONIAL RITES: CHINESE GREETED AT KARACHI AIRPORT BY SIND CHIEF MINISTER MUMTAZ ALI BHUTTO AND WERE AFFORDED WARM WELCOME BY LOCAL POPULACE. CHIEF MINISTER BHUTTO AND CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER EXCHANGED MUTUALLY LAUDATORY, BUT NON- SUBSTANTIVE, STATEMENTS AT TIME OF ARRIVAL. CHINESE PARTY THEN PROCEEDED FROM KARACHI AIRPORT TO THEIR DOWNTOWN QUARTERS AT THE STATE GUEST HOUSE ALONG A FLAG- DECKED MOTORCADE ROUTE. AZIZ AHMED HOSTED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BANQUET EVENING JUNE 17. FOLLOWING DAY CHINESE PARTY IN ANOTHER LATE MORNING MOTORCADE PROCEEDED TO THE MAZAR (TOMB) OF PAKISTAN'S FOUNDER MOHAMMAD ALIQJINNAH, WHERE THEY LAID WREATH AND PAID RESPECTS IN KEEPING WITH PRACTICE OF FOREIGN DIGNITARIES VISITING KARACHI. PRESIDENT BHUTTO AFTER HIS MEETING WITH US APOLLO 17 ASTRONAUTS (REF B) HOSTED A BANQUET FOR THE CHINESE VISITORS AT

WHICH CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER, IN BRIEF SPEECH, SAID
PAKISTAN'S STAND ON RELEASE OF ITS POW'S HELD BY INDIA
WAS ENTIRELY JUST, HAD WON WORLD SYMPATHY AND CHINA
FULLY SUPPORTED PAKISTAN'S STAND ON THIS ISSUE. CHINESE
DEPARTURE EARLY MORNING OF JUNE 19 WAS NOT A PUBLIC EVENT
BECAUSE OF THE EARLY HOUR AND GROUP WAS SEEN OFF BY AZIZ
AHMED.
TIGER

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